(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The research efforts by I.C.A.R. and its institute on Biofertiliser have covered symbiotic and non-symbiotic nitrogen fixing micro-organisms, Blue green manure plants. These efforts have identified efficient strains of these organisms for use on rice, pulses, leguminous oilseeds and green manure plants.

The Department of Agriculture has established under the National Project on Development and Use of Biofertiliser, 40 centres for production of Blue Green Algae. They have produced 350 tonnes of Blue Green Algae during the period 1984-85 to 1986-87. In terms of savings in chemical fertilisers, this will be equivalent to 1050 tonnes of nitrogen nutrient. This does not include the *R hizobium* bacterial cultures for eguminous crops, being produced and distributed by the various agricultural universities and numberious private agencies, for which the information on total quantity is not available.

**Janvani programme on Doordarshan**

*18. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start 'Janvani' programme again on Doordarshan;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Almost all the Central Ministries have already been covered in the programme 'Janvani'.

**Supply of edible oils by US**

*19. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US had recently offered to supply edible oils worth $ 50 million to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c) At present the contracts entered into by the State Trading Corporation of India for imports of edible oils permit the sellers to supply oils from various countries including USA at their option. The Government of USA has indicated its willingness to notify India in its Exports Enhancement Programme (EEP) which would enable India to purchase upto the 300,000 MTS of edible oils from USA. The Export Enhancement Programme is available to subsidise exports of notified US Agricultural Products so as to bring their prices down to competitive world price levels.

**Report of the High Powered Review Committee of ICAR**

*20. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the High-Powered Review Committee of the Indian Council for Agriculture Research had recently submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(c) by when the Committee is likely to submit its report to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINIS-

TRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Committee was required to submit the report by 6th October, 1987. However, the time limit was extended upto 31st January, 1988 as the Committee wanted some more time to prepare a comprehensive report.

**Radio|T.V. programmes on Government Policies**

1. SHRIMATI ELA RAMESH BHATT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to inform the public about the existing laws and Government policies through radio and T.V.;

(b) if so, what is the chunk of time daily allotted for the purpose on Radio and T.V.; and

(c) how much time was allotted providing information about (a) Minimum Wages Act, (b) Equal Remuneration Act, (c) Inter-State Migrant Workman Act, (d) Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act in the year 1986 and 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) Suitable programmes designed to inform the public about the existing Laws and Government Policies, are broadcast through verious programme formats from the different Stations|Kendras of All India Radio|Doordarshan. This is a continuing process.

(c) As regards these four particular Acts, Different stations of All India Radio have been putting out suitable programmes in their respective regional languages to provide information to the general listener as also specific audience groups. Statistical information regarding these broadcasts is not being maintained in a compiled form

**Women Beneficiaries under IRDP**

2. SHRIMATI ELA RAMESH BHATT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Integrated Rural Development Programme has been able to achieve the target of 30 per cent women beneficiaries in different States;

(b) if not, what are the reasons for not achieving the targets and the extent to which it has been achieved so far;

(c) what measures are being taken to achieve the target; and

(d) what is the total percentage of women functionaries at the block level engaged for the IRDP in proportion to male functionaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) The coverage of women on All India basis was 9.89 per cent during 1985-86 and 45.13 during 1986-87. During the current year 15.13 per cent of the families assisted upto the end of September, 1987, were women beneficiaries. Statement indicating Statewise coverage of the women is attached. (*See* below).

(b) The reasons for not achieving the target of women under IRDP includes various social factors affecting women in general infarastructural shortcomings, problems of documentation with banks etc. The Statewise performance is given in Annexure-I.

(c) In 1982, a pilot scheme in 50 selected districts was initiated with a view to extending more benefits to groups of women eligible for assistance under IRDP. The scheme, Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas is being further expanded in the Seventh Plan.

The Department constantly reviews the coverage of women under IRDP. The State Governments have been advised to